

--14. Double clamp, characterized in that it is in the form of a bent metal strip (4), at the two ends of which is a clamp according to Claim 3.--

--15. Double clamp, characterized in that it is in the form of a bent metal strip (4), at the two ends of which is a clamp according to Claim 4.--

REMARKS

Claim 1-15 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 3 and 5 are amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 12-15 are added to compensate for the material deleted from claims 3 and 5. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

WPB:TJP/kaf

Attachment:
Appendix

Date: June 18, 2001

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
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